

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

October 28, 1980

~~SECRET~~
ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI

FROM: THOMAS THORNTON

SUBJECT: M-B-B Lunch -- Argentina (U)

~~Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP~~

~~Change to~~

~~() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify~~

~~Exemptions b () () E.O. 13526 25x () ()~~

~~Declassify after~~

~~With concurrence of: ~~SECRET~~~~

~~IPS by Q obtained not obt. Date 12-5-10~~

Attached at Tab A is a memo from Muskie to the President reflecting cutbacks in our rapprochement with Argentina, resulting mainly from their involvement in Bolivia. I support these cutbacks as well as the idea of reviewing them next year. This, however, was in the first place an interdepartmental exercise; most of the actions affected involve DOD; and State failed to clear its memo with anybody. Therefore I sent the memo around to several other departments for comment. All were essentially in agreement except DOD, whose blast is at Tab B. (S)

Claytor wants to restore the military programs, arguing that they are the way to the heart of the Argentine Government. (But how one can talk about "important positive effects" of the Goodpaster visit is beyond me!) I don't think this is the time to do this, and -- from the Bolivia viewpoint -- Pastor agrees. (S)

The gap may not be all that great since State proposes to review the situation next year, and we are hardly likely to get anything off the ground before then anyway. President-select Viola, by the way, will be in Washington in the interim and will probably see the President. It would be good to keep our cards in hand. (S)

There is not much immediate substance to this, but it has been necessary to go through the exercise to keep State honest. I don't see that the issue need be taken to the President. (U)

RECOMMENDED POSITION

1. Point out to Muskie that he should be careful to ensure that items like this are cleared by the appropriate concerned agencies.
2. Suggest to Claytor that he withdraw his memo on the understanding that the proposals will be reviewed early next year.
3. Suggest to Muskie that since this is basically a record-keeping exercise, he agree that his memo not go to the President who has other things on his mind. (C)

~~SECRET~~

Review on Oct. 10, 1990
Deriv. Classif. by Defense
Secr. Def. Contr. No. 11302

